

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,

vs.

JOHN ROCKNE MENDENHALL,
Defendant.

CASE NO: 1:22-CR-105

DETENTION ORDER

ORDER OF DETENTION PENDING TRIAL

Part I - Eligibility for Detention

Upon the

☒ **A. Motion** of the government attorney pursuant to **18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(1)**, because defendant is charged with

- ☐ **(A)** a crime of violence, a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1591, or an offense listed in 18 U.S.C. § 2332b(g)(5)(B) for which a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years or more is prescribed; **or**
- ☐ **(B)** an offense for which the maximum sentence is life imprisonment **or** death;
- ☐ **(C)** an offense for which a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years or more is prescribed in the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. §§ 801-904), the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. §§ 951-971), or Chapter 705 of Title 46, U.S.C. (46 U.S.C. §§ 70501-70508); **or**
- ☐ **(D)** any felony if such person has been convicted of two or more offenses described in subparagraphs (1) through (3) of this paragraph, or two or more
- ☒ **(E)** any felony that is not otherwise a crime of violence but involves:(a) a minor victim; (b) the possession of a firearm or destructive device (as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921); (c) any other dangerous weapon; or (d) a failure to register under 18 U.S.C. § 2250;

OR

☐ **B. Motion** of the government or court's own motion pursuant to **18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(2)**, because

- ☐ **(A)** the defendant poses a serious risk of flight if released, or
- ☐ **(B)** the defendant poses a serious risk of obstructing or attempting to obstruct justice if released;

the court held a detention hearing and found that detention is warranted. This order sets forth the court's findings of fact and conclusions of law, as required by 18 U.S.C. § 3142(i), in addition to any other findings made at the hearing.

Part II - Findings of Fact and Law as to Presumptions under § 3142(e)

- ☐ **A. Rebuttable Presumption Arises Under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(2) (*previous violator*):** In a case described in 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(1), there is a presumption that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the safety of any other person and the community because the following conditions have been met:
- ☐ **(A)** the defendant has previously been convicted of a federal offense that is described in 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(1), or of a state or local offense that would have been such an offense if a circumstance giving rise to federal jurisdiction had existed; *and*
 - ☐ **(B)** the offense described in paragraph (2) above for which the defendant has been convicted was committed while the defendant was on release pending trial for a federal, state, or local offense; *and*
 - ☐ **(C)** a period of not more than five years has elapsed since the date of conviction, or the release of the defendant from imprisonment, for the offense described in paragraph (2) above, whichever is later.
- ☐ **B. Rebuttable Presumption Arises Under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(3) (*narcotics, firearm, other offenses*):** There is a rebuttable presumption that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the defendant as required and the safety of the community because there is probable cause to believe that the defendant committed one or more of the following offenses:
- ☐ **(A)** an offense for which a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years or more is prescribed in the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. §§ 801-904), the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. §§ 951-971), or Chapter 705 of Title 46, U.S.C. (46 U.S.C. §§ 70501-70508);
 - ☐ **(B)** an offense under 18 U.S.C. §§ 924(c), 956(a), or 2332b;
 - ☐ **(C)** an offense listed in 18 U.S.C. § 2332b(g)(5)(B) for which a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years or more is prescribed;
 - ☐ **(D)** an offense under Chapter 77 of Title 18, U.S.C. (18 U.S.C. §§ 1581-1597) for which a maximum imprisonment of 20 years or more is prescribed; *or*
 - ☐ **(E)** an offense involving a minor victim under 18 U.S.C. §§ 1201, 1591, 2241, 2242, 2244(a)(1), 2251, 2251A, 2252(a)(1), 2252(a)(2), 2252(a)(3), 2252A(a)(1), 2252A(a)(2), 2252A(a)(3), 2252A(a)(4), 2260, 2421, 2422, 2423, or 2425.
- ☐ **C. Conclusions Regarding Applicability of Any Presumption Established Above**
- ☐ The defendant has not introduced sufficient evidence to rebut the presumption above.
OR
 - ☐ The defendant has presented evidence sufficient to rebut the presumption, but after considering the presumption and the other factors discussed below, detention is warranted.

Part III - Analysis and Statement of the Reasons for Detention

After considering the factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3142(g) and the information presented at the detention hearing, the court concludes that the defendant must be detained pending trial because the government has proven:

- ☒ By clear and convincing evidence that no condition or combination of conditions of release will reasonably assure the safety of any other person and the community.
- ☒ By a preponderance of evidence that no condition or combination of conditions of release will reasonably assure the defendant's appearance as required.

In addition to any findings made on the record at the hearing, the reasons for detention include the following:

- (1) Nature and circumstances of the offense(s) charged in the present case:
 - ☐ Subject to lengthy period of incarceration if convicted
 - ☐ Subject to removal or deportation after serving any period of incarceration
 - ☐ The crime is one identified as carrying a presumption of detention (as identified in Part II A. or B)
 - ☐ The defendant attempted to evade law enforcement at the time of arrestOther:
- (2) Weight of evidence against the defendant is strong because Mr. Mendenhall was found in possession of a firearm, he made inculpatory admissions at the scene, and his DNA was found on the firearm.
- (3) History and characteristics of the defendant
 - ☒ Prior criminal history
 - ☒ Participation in criminal activity while on probation, parole, or supervision
 - ☒ Prior violations of probation, parole, or supervised release
 - ☒ History of violence or use/unlawful possession of weapon(s)
 - ☐ History of alcohol or substance abuse
 - ☒ Lack of indication of stable employment
 - ☒ Lack of indication of stable residence
 - ☐ Lack of financially responsible sureties
 - ☐ Lack of indication of significant community or family ties to this district
 - ☐ Significant family or other ties outside the United States
 - ☐ Alleged lack of legal status in the United States
 - ☐ Prior failure to appear in court as ordered
 - ☐ Prior attempt(s) to evade law enforcement
 - ☐ Use of alias(es) or false documents
 - ☒ Background information unknown or unverified
 - ☒ On probation, parole and/or release pending trial, sentence, appeal, or completion of sentence at the time of the alleged offense
- (4) Nature and seriousness of danger posed by person's release:
 - ☐ The defendant poses the following danger:
 - ☐ The risk of that danger is:

OTHER REASONS OR FURTHER EXPLANATION:

Because Mr. Mendenhall is in primary state custody pending a parole violation proceeding, he offered no argument in favor of release. He only asked that he remain in state custody.

Based on the information in the pretrial report and the government's detention motion, Mr. Mendenhall poses an unmanageable risk of danger and nonappearance. With respect to nonappearance, Mr. Mendenhall has two prior convictions involving escape. And he had a lengthy history of noncompliance with supervision. This same history informs Mr. Mendenhall's risk of danger, as does the length of his history—and his prior firearms offenses. Indeed, Mr. Mendenhall is facing parole violation allegations in a case in which he alleged shot at a police officer. Even the fact that Mr. Mendenhall was on parole for that offense at the time of the instant alleged offense shows there are no conditions sufficient to manage his risks.

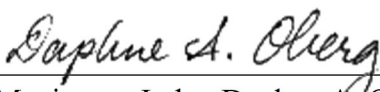
Conditions which restrict the defendant's travel, personal contacts, and possession of drugs, alcohol, and/or firearms; require reporting, education, employment, or treatment; or monitor the defendant's movements or conduct; or any combination of these conditions or others currently proposed or available (see 18 U.S.C. § 3142(c)), will not sufficiently ameliorate the risks posed if the defendant is released.

Part IV - Directions Regarding Detention

The defendant is remanded to the custody of the Attorney General or to the Attorney General's designated representative for confinement in a correctional facility separate, to the extent practicable, from persons awaiting or serving sentences or being held in custody pending appeal. The defendant must be afforded a reasonable opportunity for private consultation with defense counsel. On order of a court of the United States or on request of an attorney for the government, the person in charge of the corrections facility must deliver the defendant to a United States Marshal for the purpose of an appearance in connection with a court proceeding.

Dated November 29, 2022.

BY THE COURT:


Magistrate Judge Daphne A. Oberg